REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended.

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application. Claims 6, 12, and 16 have been amended to more properly define preexisting claim limitations. The amended claims are supported by the specification. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-20 have been provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-19 of Application No. 09/826,220. Applicant notes that claims 1-20 have been provisionally rejected for obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-19 of co-pending Application No. 09/826,220 and at such time that such a rejection no longer is provisional, Applicant will take steps to overcome the rejection.

The drawings have been objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference sign(s) not mentioned in the description: Note reference characters 400 and 480 in figure 4, 600 and 670 in Figure 5, 820 in Figure 8, 1430 in Figure 14B and 1715 and 1721 in Figure 17. Applicant respectfully submits that the changes made to the specification overcome the objection to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5), and request that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn. No new matter has been added to the specification.

Claims 1, 7-11, 17, 18 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Miller. Applicant submits that claim 1 is patentable over the cited reference. Claim 1 recites:

A method comprising:

provifing prerequisite information regarding pages of a graphical user interface (GUI) that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI, each page including one or more sub-components;

in response to a request to display a destination page and with reference to the prerequisite information, identifying one or more prerequisite pages associated with the destination page;

determining which sub-component of the one or more sub-components of an identified prerequisite page is a decider sub-component that is capable of confirming whether or not requirements of the identified prerequisite page have been satisfied;

determining whether or not the requirements of the identified prerequisite page have been satisfied by invoking a method of an instance of the decider sub-component that causes stored information regarding the state of the identified prerequisite page to be retrieved from a current environment/context; and

causing the output of the destination page to be displayed if all the requirements of the one or more identified prerequisite pages have been satisfied, otherwise causing the output of a prerequisite page of the one or more identified prerequisite pages having one or more requirements that have not been satisfied to be displayed.

(Claim 1, Emphasis added)

The Office Action states in pertinent part:

Referring to claims 1, 10 and 20, Miller et al. teach a method, system and machine readable medium for providing information regarding pages of a graphical user interface (GUI) (column 2, lines 9-11) that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI.

(Office Action, 11/21/03, page 4, Emphasis added).

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Office Action's characterization of Miller. The Office Action purports that Miller discloses a method, system and machine readable medium for providing prerequisite information regarding pages of a GUI that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI. Applicant submits that Miller does not disclose providing prerequisite information regarding pages of a GUI that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI.

Miller discloses a "system for providing security for individual controls within a window of a GUI." (See Miller, col. 2, lines 9-11). Providing security is accomplished by limiting access to information in the controls of windows by obscuring the view to users by an obscuring member. (See Miller, col. 2, lines 32-43). The control of windows includes the obscured

information requested by the user. This shows that the method of Miller provides security of

obscured information (the information requested by the user) in the controls of windows and

does not provide prerequisite information regarding pages that are prerequisite pages to

other pages of the GUI.

In contrast, claim 1 recites "providing prerequisite information regarding pages of a

graphical user interface (GUI) that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI." Applicant

respectfully submits that nothing in Miller discloses "providing prerequisite information

regarding pages of a graphical user interface (GUI) that are prerequisites to other pages of the

GUI," as recited in claim 1. Therefore, Applicant submits that claim 1 is patentable over the

cited reference.

Given that claims 7-9 depend from claim 1, Applicant submits that claims 7-9 are

patentable over the cited reference.

Applicant submits that claim 10 is patentable over the cited reference. Claim 10 recites:

> A graphical user interface (GUI) system for enforcing page prerequisites
> comprising:
> a properties data store including information regarding pages of the GUI
> that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI;
> a base agent to respond to requests to display a destination page of the GUI, in
> response to a request to display the destination page, the base agent causing the output of
> the destination page to be displayed if all the requirements of one or more prerequisite
> pages associated with the destination page have been satisfied, otherwise causing the
> output of a prerequisite page of the one or more prerequisite pages to be displayed; and
> a prerequisite factory decoupling the pages from their respective prerequisite
> pages, the prerequisite factory to determine whether or not requirements of one or more
> identified prerequisite pages have been satisfied by causing information regarding the
> state of the one or more identified prerequisite pages to be retrieved from a current
> environment/context.

(Claim 10, Emphasis added)

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Office Action's assertions and characterization

of Miller. First, Applicant wishes to remind the Examiner that claim 10 and claim 1 are each

independent claims having different claim limitations. Moreover, claim 10 is a system claim while claim 1 is a method claim. As such, the claim 10 analysis provided by the Office Action referring to claim 1 is inapposite. Applicant respectfully submits that the reasoning provided in the Office Action with respect to claim 10 is not a cogent attempt to read a reference onto an independent claim of an application and, therefore, has not established that the Examiner has determined that all the limitations of the Applicant's claim 10 are disclosed by the prior art reference, as is the Examiner's burden. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner provide an analysis with respect to claim 10 and the cited reference by identifying, next to each claim limitation of claim 10, the column and line numbers from the cited reference where the Examiner believes the claim language reads on the cited reference. Although, Applicant believes that the Examiner has not met his burden in this matter, Applicant is herewith making a response as best as possible in an attempt to advance prosecution of this case.

Miller discloses a "system for providing security for individual controls within a window of a GUI." (See Miller, col. 2, lines 9-11). Providing security is accomplished by limiting access to information in the controls of windows by obscuring the view to users by an obscuring member. (See Miller, col. 2, lines 32-43). Nothing in Miller however, discloses "a properties data store including information regarding pages of the GUI that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI," as recited in claim 10. Therefore, Applicant submits that claim 10 is patentable over the cited reference.

Given that claims 11, 17, and 18 depend from claim 10, Applicant submits that claims 11, 17, and 18 are patentable over the cited reference.

Applicant submits that claim 20 is patentable over the cited reference. Claim 20 recites:

A machine-readable medium having stored thereon data representing sequences of instructions, the sequences of instruction which, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to:

identify one or more prerequisite pages associated with a destination page by **accessing a properties file in response to a request for the destination page, the properties file including prerequisite information regarding pages of a graphical user interface (GUI) that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI;**

determine which sub-component of an identified prerequisite page is capable of confirming whether or not requirements of the identified prerequisite page have been satisfied;

determine whether the requirements of the identified prerequisite page have been satisfied by invoking a method of an instance of the sub-component that causes stored information regarding the state of the identified prerequisite page to be retrieved from a current environment/context; and

cause the output of the destination page to be displayed if all the requirements of the one or more identified prerequisite pages have been satisfied, otherwise cause the output of a prerequisite page of the one or more identified prerequisite pages having one or more requirements that have not been satisfied to be displayed.

(Claim 20, Emphasis added)

Again, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner provide an analysis with respect to claim 20 and the cited reference by identifying, next to each claim limitation of claim 20, the column and line numbers from the cited reference where the Examiner believes the claim language reads on the cited reference. Although, Applicant believes that the Examiner has not met his burden in this regard, Applicant is herewith making a response as best as possible in an attempt to advance prosecution of this case.

Similarly to the discussions above with regard to claims 1 and 10, nothing in Miller discloses "identify one or more prerequisite pages associated with a destination page by **accessing a properties file in response to a request for the destination page, the properties file including prerequisite information regarding pages of a graphical user interface (GUI) that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI,**" as recited in claim 20. Therefore, Applicant submits that claim 20 is patentable over the cited reference.

Claims 2 and 12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Miller, as applied to claims 1 and 10 above, and further in view of Feldman. Applicant respectfully submits that claim 2 is patentable over the cited references. Given that claim 2 depends from claim 1, claim 2 includes all limitations of claim 1.

It is respectfully submitted that Miller and Feldman do not teach or suggest a combination with each other. Applicant respectfully submits that it would be impermissible hindsight, based on Applicant's own disclosure to combine the cited references.

Applicant respectfully submits that there is no motivation to combine Miller and Feldman. The Office Action states "[i]t would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Miller et al. and Feldman before him at the time of the invention was made, to modify the GUI of Miller et al. to include the Java files taught by Feldman[,]" and "one would have been motivated to make such a combination in order to give users versatility in being able to implement the access control interface with various different software languages." (Office Action, 11/21/03, page 6). Here, the Office Action merely states an advantage of implementing the access control interface with various different software languages, without explaining the teaching in Miller that would suggest such a combination with Feldman.

Even if Miller and Feldman were combined, the combination would still not result in the limitations of claim 2.

The Office Action states in pertinent part:

> Referring to claims 2 and 22, while Miller et al teach **all of the limitations as applied to the claims above,** they fail to teach storing the information in a Java file. Feldman teaches an access control system and method similar to that of Miller et al. In addition, he further teaches controlling access to pages (information) through the **use of prerequisite information** (unique identifier) (Column 2, lines 47-63) **via Java files** as recited in column 13, lines 19-21.

(Office Action, 11/21/03, page 6, Emphasis added).

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Office Action's characterization of Miller. The Office Action purports that Miller teaches a method, system and machine readable medium for providing prerequisite information regarding pages of a GUI that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI. As set forth above, Applicant submits that Miller does not teach providing prerequisite information regarding pages of a GUI that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI. The method of Miller **provides security of obscured information** (the information requested by the user) in the controls of windows and **does not provide prerequisite information regarding pages that are prerequisite pages to other pages** of the GUI.

In contrast, claim 2 recites "**providing prerequisite information regarding pages** of a graphical user interface (GUI) **that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI.**" Applicant respectfully submits that nothing in Miller teaches "providing prerequisite information regarding pages of a graphical user interface (GUI) that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI," and/or "wherein the prerequisite information is stored in a Java properties file," as recited in claim 2.

Feldman teaches a method and system for managing a user's access utilizing "entitlement expressions that refer to membership maps and unique assessor identification indices into the membership maps to determine the user's entitlement to a resource." (See Feldman, col. 1, lines 19-23). "The method includes associating an entitlement expression with the resource," that is requested from the accessor. (See Feldman, col. 2, lines 50-53). The resources of Feldman that are addressed over the Internet include software application programs, such as the Common Gateway Interface (CGI). (See Feldman, col. 13, lines 13-17). The "CGI may be written in any programming language that may be executing on [a] computer", such as "C/C++, Fortran, PERL, TCL, any Unix shell, Visual Basic or Java". (See Feldman, col. 13, lines 17-21). **This shows that programming language of Java may be used to program the CGI, which is one type of resource that can be requested by the accessor.** The cited reference, however, does not teach

controlling access to pages through the use of prerequisite information via Java files, as purported by the Office Action. Nothing in Feldman is directed towards providing prerequisite information regarding pages of a GUI that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI and storing prerequisite information in a Java properties file. As such, Feldman does not cure the deficiencies of Miller as discussed above. The combination of Miller and Feldman does not teach the limitations of claim 2.

Nothing in Miller and Feldman, either alone or in combination, teaches or suggest "providing prerequisite information regarding pages of a GUI that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI," and/or "wherein the prerequisite information is stored in a Java properties file," as recited in claim 2. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 2 is patentable over the cited references.

Similarly, dependent claim 12, which includes the limitations of independent claim 10, includes the similar claim limitation of claim 2, which recites "a properties data store including information regarding pages of the GUI that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI," and "wherein the properties data store is a Java properties file." Thus, for reason similar to those discussed above, claim 12 is patentable over the cited references.

Claims 3-5, 13-15 and 19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Miller, as applied to claims 1 and 10 above, and further in view of Newman. Applicant respectfully submits that claim 3 is patentable over the cited references. Given that claim 3 depends from claim 1, claim 3 includes all limitations of claim 1.

It is respectfully submitted that Miller and Newman do not teach or suggest a combination with each other. Applicant respectfully submits that it would be impermissible hindsight, based on Applicant's own disclosure to combine the cited references.

Applicant respectfully submits that there is no motivation to combine Miller and

Newman. The Office Action states "[i]t would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the

art, having the teachings of Miller et al. and Newman before him at the time of the invention was

made, to modify the GUI taught by Miller et al. to include the hierarchical relationships of

Newman[,]" and "one would have been motivated to make such a combination in order to

provide a higher level of security for the database's information." (Office Action, 11/21/03, page

7). Here, the Office Action merely states an advantage of implementing supporting hierarchical

relationships, without explaining the teaching in Miller that would suggest such a combination

with Newman.

Even if Miller and Newman were combined, the combination would still not result in the

limitations of claim 3.

The Office Action states in pertinent part:

> Referring to claims 3 and 13, while Miller et al **teach all of the limitations as applied to
> the claims above**, they fail to teach support for hierarchical relationships of prerequisite
> pages. Newman et al. teach a graphical user interface similar to that of Miller et al. In
> addition, Newman et al. **teach a method and system for generating universal resource
> locator (URL) menus containing hierarchical relationships for the HTML files they
> contain** (column 2, lines 60-62). As can be seen from Figure 1, the method iterates
> through the identified pages in a predetermined order (file1.html homepages, file2.html,
> file3.html, etc.) wherein the second page is dependent upon the first page and so on.

(Office Action, 11/21/03, page 6-7, Emphasis added).

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Office Action's characterization of Miller. As

discussed above, Applicant submits that Miller does not teach providing prerequisite information

regarding pages of a GUI that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI. More specifically,

claim 3 recites "**providing prerequisite information regarding pages** of a graphical user

interface (GUI) **that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI.**" Applicant respectfully

submits that nothing in Miller teaches "providing prerequisite information regarding pages of a

graphical user interface (GUI) that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI," and/or

"supporting hierarchical relationships of prerequisite pages," as recited in claim 3.

Newman teaches a method and apparatus for implementing universal resource locator

nested menus. (See Newman, Abstract and Title). "The nested menu contains a list of most

recently used [URLs], and a list of open HTML files." (See Newman, col. 2, lines 62-64).

Figure 1 illustrates various HTML files that may be linked to one another through the use of URL

links[,] and may also link to selected portions of an HTML file by linking to an 'anchor[.]'" (See

Newman col. 1, lines 64-67; and col. 2, line 1). **Figure 1 of Newman does not teach a method**

that iterates through the identified pages in a predetermined order, as purported by the

Office Action. Nothing in Newman is directed towards providing prerequisite information

regarding pages of a GUI that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI and supporting

hierarchical relationships of prerequisite pages by iterating through each of the identified

prerequisite pages associated with the destination page in a predetermined order until

encountering the first prerequisite pages that has one or more requirements that have not been

satisfied. As such, Newman does not cure the deficiencies of Miller as discussed above. The

combination of Miller and Newman does not teach the limitations of claim 3.

Nothing in Miller and Newman, either alone or in combination, teaches or suggest

"providing prerequisite information regarding pages of a graphical user interface (GUI) that are

prerequisites to other pages of the GUI," and/or "supporting hierarchical relationships of

prerequisite pages by iterating through each of the identified prerequisite pages associated with

the destination page in a predetermined order until encountering the first prerequisite pages that

has one or more requirements that have not been satisfied," as recited in claim 3. Therefore,

Applicant respectfully submits that claim 3 is patentable over the cited references.

Similarly, dependent claim 13, which includes the limitations of independent claim 10, includes the similar claim limitation of claim 3, which recites "providing prerequisite information regarding pages of a GUI that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI,' and/or "supporting hierarchical relationships of prerequisite pages by iterating through each of the identified prerequisite pages associated with the destination page in a predetermined order until encountering the first prerequisite pages that has one or more requirements that have not been satisfied." Thus, for reason similar to those discussed above, claim 13 is patentable over the cited references.

Applicant respectfully submits that claim 4 is patentable over the cited references. Given that claim 4 depends from claim 1, claim 4 includes all limitations of claim 1.

It is respectfully submitted that Miller and Newman do not teach or suggest a combination with each other. Applicant respectfully submits that it would be impermissible hindsight, based on Applicant's own disclosure to combine the cited references.

Applicant respectfully submits that there is no motivation to combine Miller and Newman. The Office Action states "[i]t would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Miller et al. and Newman before him at the time of the invention was made, to modify the GUI taught by Miller et al. to include the web pages of Newman[,] ... because the Internet is growing at such a fast rate and this would allow the security controls of sensitive information to apply to information transmitted via web pages on the Internet." (Office Action, 11/21/03, page 7). Here, the Office Action merely states an advantage of implementing the method with web pages, without explaining the teaching in Miller that would suggest such a combination with Newman.

Even if Miller and Newman were combined, the combination would still not result in the limitations of claim 4.

Claim 4 recites "providing prerequisite information regarding pages of a graphical user interface (GUI) that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI," and "wherein the request to display the destination page comprises a HTTP request, and wherein the pages of the GUI comprise web pages." Applicant respectfully submits that nothing in Miller teaches "providing prerequisite information regarding pages of a graphical user interface (GUI) that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI," and "wherein the request to display the destination page comprises a HyperText Transfer Protocol (HTTP) request, and wherein the pages of the GUI comprise web pages," as recited in claim 4.

Newman teaches a method and apparatus for implementing universal resource locator nested menus. (See Newman, Abstract and Title). "The nested menu contains a list of most recently used [URLs], and a list of open HTML files." (See Newman, col. 2, lines 62-64). Nothing in Newman is directed towards providing prerequisite information regarding pages of a GUI that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI and/or wherein the request to display the destination page comprises a HTTP request, and wherein the pages of the GUI comprise web pages. As such, Newman does not cure the deficiencies of Miller as discussed above. The combination of Miller and Newman does not teach the limitations of claim 4.

Nothing in Miller and Newman, either alone or in combination, teaches or suggest "providing prerequisite information regarding pages of a GUI that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI," and/or "wherein the request to display the destination page comprises a HTTP request, and wherein the pages of the GUI comprise web pages," as recited in claim 4. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 4 is patentable over the cited references.

Similarly, dependent claim 14, which includes the limitations of independent claim 10, includes the similar claim limitation of claim 4, which recites "providing prerequisite information regarding pages of a GUI that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI," and

"wherein the request to display the destination page comprises a HTTP request, and wherein the pages of the GUI comprise web pages." Thus, for reason similar to those discussed above, claim 14 is patentable over the cited references.

Applicant respectfully submits that claim 5 is patentable over the cited references. Given that claim 5 depends from claim 1, claim 5 includes all limitations of claim 1.

It is respectfully submitted that Miller and Newman do not teach or suggest a combination with each other. Applicant respectfully submits that it would be impermissible hindsight, based on Applicant's own disclosure to combine the cited references.

Applicant respectfully submits that there is no motivation to combine Miller and Newman. The Office Action states "[i]t would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Miller et al. and Newman before him at the time of the invention was made, to modify the GUI taught by Miller et al. to include the prerequisite string of Newman et al.[,] and one would have been motivated to make such a combination in order to allow users to view all of the prerequisite pages for a particular page of the GUI. " (Office Action, 11/21/03, page 7). Here, the Office Action merely states an advantage of allow users to view all of the prerequisite pages for a particular page of the GUI, without explaining the teaching in Miller that would suggest such a combination with Newman.

Even if Miller and Newman were combined, the combination would still not result in the limitations of claim 5.

In contrast, claim 5 recites "providing prerequisite information regarding pages of a graphical user interface (GUI) that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI," and "wherein the prerequisite information includes a prerequisite property for each of the pages of the GUI, the prerequisite property comprising a string identifying the one or more prerequisite pages." Applicant respectfully submits that nothing in Miller teaches "providing prerequisite information

regarding pages of a graphical user interface (GUI) that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI," and/or "wherein the prerequisite information includes a prerequisite property for each of the pages of the GUI, the prerequisite property comprising a string identifying the one or more prerequisite pages," as recited in claim 5.

Additionally, the Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Office Action's characterization of Newman. Newman teaches a method and apparatus for implementing universal resource locator nested menus. (See Newman, Abstract and Title). "The nested menu contains a list of most recently used [URLs], and a list of open HTML files." (See Newman, col. 2, lines 62-64). The URLs illustrated in col. 2, lines 35-43 and 51-58 are merely part of a menu including the list of most recently used URLs and are not prerequisite pages of a string. Further, nothing in Newman is directed towards providing prerequisite information regarding pages of a graphical user interface (GUI) that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI, and the prerequisite information including a prerequisite property for each of the pages of the GUI, and that the prerequisite property comprises a string identifying the one or more prerequisite pages. As such, Newman does not cure the deficiencies of Miller as discussed above. The combination of Miller and Newman does not teach the limitations of claim 5.

Nothing in Miller and Newman, either alone or in combination, teaches or suggest "providing prerequisite information regarding pages of a graphical user interface (GUI) that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI," and "prerequisite information including a prerequisite property for each of the pages of the GUI, and that the prerequisite property comprises a string identifying the one or more prerequisite pages," as recited in claim 5. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 5 is patentable over the cited references.

Similarly, dependent claim 15, which includes the limitations of independent claim 10, includes the similar claim limitation of claim 5, which recites "providing prerequisite

information regarding pages of a GUI that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI," and

"wherein the prerequisite information includes a prerequisite property for each of the pages of the

GUI, the prerequisite property comprising a string identifying the one or more prerequisite

pages." Thus, for reason similar to those discussed above, claim 15 is patentable over the cited

references.

Applicant submits that claim 19 is patentable over the cited reference. Claim 19 recites:

A method comprising:
    identifying, at run-time, one or more prerequisite web pages associated with a requested web page by accessing a properties file;
    determining whether requirements of the one or more identified prerequisite pages have been satisfied; and
    causing the output of the requested web page to be displayed if all the requirements of the one or more identified prerequisite pages have been satisfied, otherwise causing the output of a prerequisite page of the one or more identified prerequisite pages having one or more unsatisfied requirements to be displayed.

(Claim 19, Emphasis added)

It is respectfully submitted that Miller and Newman do not teach or suggest a

combination with each other. Applicant respectfully submits that it would be impermissible

hindsight, based on Applicant's own disclosure to combine the cited references.

Applicant respectfully submits that there is no motivation to combine Miller and

Newman. The Office Action states "[i]t would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the

art, having the teachings of Miller et al. and Newman before him at the time of the invention was

made, to modify the method taught by Miller et al. to apply to the web pages of Newman et al.

[,] and it would be advantageous for one to utilize such a combination because the Internet is

growing at such a fast rate and this would allow security controls of sensitive information to

apply to information transmitted via web pages on the Internet." (Office Action, 11/21/03, page

8). Here, the Office Action merely states an advantage of allowing security controls of sensitive

information transmitted via web pages on the Internet, without explaining the teaching in Miller that would suggest such a combination with Newman.

Even if Miller and Newman were combined, the combination would still not result in the limitations of claim 19.

Applicant submits that the information in a database of Miller does not teach the claim limitation of identifying, at run-time, one or more prerequisite web pages associated with a requested web page by accessing a properties file, as recited in claim 19.

More specifically, claim 19 recites "identifying, at run-time, one or more prerequisite web pages associated with a requested web page by accessing a properties file." Applicant respectfully submits that nothing in Miller teaches "identifying, at run-time, one or more prerequisite web pages associated with a requested web page by accessing a properties file," as recited in claim 19.

Additionally, the Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Office Action's characterization of Newman. Applicant submits that Newman does not teach or suggest prerequisite web pages associated with a requested web page.

Newman teaches a method and apparatus for implementing universal resource locator nested menus. (See Newman, Abstract and Title). "The nested menu contains a list of most recently used [URLs], and a list of open HTML files." (See Newman, col. 2, lines 62-64). The URLs illustrated in col. 2, lines 35-43 and 51-58 are merely part of a menu including the list of most recently used URLs and are not prerequisite pages associated with requested web pages. Further, nothing in Newman is directed towards identifying, at run-time, one or more prerequisite web pages associated with a requested web page by accessing a properties file. As such, Newman does not cure the deficiencies of Miller as discussed above. The combination of Miller and Newman does not teach the limitations of claim 19.

Nothing in Miller and Newman, either alone or in combination, teaches or suggest "identifying, at run-time, one or more prerequisite web pages associated with a requested web page by accessing a properties file," as recited in claim 19. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 19 is patentable over the cited references.

Claims 6 and 16 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Miller, as applied to claims 1, and further in view of Kirk. Applicant respectfully submits that claim 6 is patentable over the cited references.

It is respectfully submitted that Miller and Kirk do not teach or suggest a combination with each other. Applicant respectfully submits that it would be impermissible hindsight, based on Applicant's own disclosure to combine the cited references. Applicant respectfully submits that there is no motivation to combine Miller and Kirk.

Even if Miller and Kirk were combined, the combination would still not result in the limitations of claim 6.

Applicant submits that Miller does not teach providing prerequisite information regarding pages of a GUI that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI.

Additionally, Applicant submits that nothing in Miller teaches the limitation of claim 6 that recites "prerequisite information is structured as a list of attribute pairs, and wherein a syntax for identifying a first page, $page_1$, and a second page, $page_2$, as prerequisites of a third page, $page_3$, is substantially as follows: $page_3.prereq = page_1\ page_2$."

Claim 6 recites "providing prerequisite information regarding pages of a graphical user interface (GUI) that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI," and "prerequisite information is structured as a list of attribute pairs, and wherein a syntax for identifying a first page, $page_1$, and a second page, $page_2$, as prerequisites of a third page, $page_3$, is substantially as follows: $page_3.prereq = page_1\ page_2$." Applicant respectfully submits that nothing in Miller teaches

"providing prerequisite information regarding pages of a graphical user interface (GUI) that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI," and/or "prerequisite information is structured as a list of attribute pairs, and wherein a syntax for identifying a first page, page$_1$, and a second page, page$_2$, as prerequisites of a third page, page$_3$, is substantially as follows: page$_3$.prereq = page$_1$ page$_2$," as recited in claim 6.

Kirk teaches a user interface for retrieving "information form a plurality of information sources and stores information source descriptions in a knowledge base. These information sources descriptions contain various attributes which describe the information source." (See Kirk, col. 2, lines 11-17). "The knowledge base object editor 616 that is instantiated when adding an information source description to the knowledge base 109 presents a modifiable template of an information source description, expressed as attribute-value pairs." (See Kirk, col. 29, lines 42-46). Nothing in Kirk however, is directed towards providing prerequisite information regarding pages of a GUI and the prerequisite information being structured as a list of attribute pairs, and wherein a syntax for identifying a first page, page$_1$, and a second page, page$_2$, as prerequisites of a third page, page$_3$, is substantially as follows: page$_3$.prereq = page$_1$ page$_2$. As such, Kirk does not cure the deficiencies of Miller as discussed above. The combination of Miller and Kirk does not teach the limitations of claim 6.

Nothing in Miller and Kirk, either alone or in combination, teaches or suggest "providing prerequisite information regarding pages of a GUI that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI," and/or "prerequisite information including a prerequisite property for each of the pages of the GUI, and that the prerequisite property comprises a string identifying the one or more prerequisite pages," and/or "wherein the prerequisite information is structured as a list of attribute pairs, and wherein a syntax for identifying a first page, page$_1$, and a second page, page$_2$, as prerequisites of a third page, page$_3$, is substantially as follows: page$_3$.prereq = page$_1$ page$_2$," as

recited in claim 6. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 6 is patentable over the cited references.

Similarly, dependent claim 16, which includes the limitations of independent claim 10, includes the similar claim limitation of claim 6, which recites "providing prerequisite information regarding pages of a GUI that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI," and "wherein a syntax for identifying a first page, $page_1$, and a second page, $page_2$, as prerequisites of a third page, $page_3$, is substantially as follows: $page_3.prereq = page_1\ page_2$." Thus, for reason similar to those discussed above, claim 16 is patentable over the cited references.

In conclusion, Applicant respectfully submits that in view of the arguments and amendments set forth herein, the applicable rejections have been overcome.

If the Examiner believes a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Michael Mallie at (408) 720-8300.
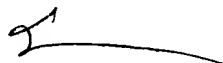
If there are any additional charges, please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: _____

_____
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